

GR 98 P 2651 P

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By: Morgan VolkDate: Dec 13, 200214/Response
12-23-02
AwellIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : Heinrich Brunner et al.

DEC 13 2002

Applic. No. : 09/816,927

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Filed : March 23, 2001

Title : Semiconductor Component Having Field-Shaping Regions

Examiner : Kiesha L. Rose

Group Art Unit : 2822

P R E L I M I N A R Y R E S P O N S E

S i r :

Responsive to the Advisory Office action dated November 14, 2002, and in view of the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on Decemember 2, 2002, the following remarks are made.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-20 are solicited.

Claims 1-20 remain in the application.

On page 2 of the above-identified Advisory Action, the Examiner stated that "the amendment filed 31 October 2002 discloses the channel electrically connecting parts of [a] semiconductor body separated by semiconductor regions. This limitation is not disclosed in the specification and the section that was pointed out does not show support for the limitation. Therefore it is considered new matter."

In the second paragraph on page 8 of the response filed October 31, 2002, Applicants stated:

The rejection has been noted and claims 1, 11, and 12 have been amended to recite "said channels electrically connecting parts of said semiconductor body separated by said semiconductor regions" in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. Support for the changes can be found on page 9, lines 20-25, of the specification.

The last paragraph (lines 20-26) on page 9 of the specification states:

The *channels* of the *first* conductivity type which are *routed* between the *regions* of the *second* conductivity type *connect*, as has been explained above, the *zones* of the *first* conductivity type which are created by these regions, with the result *that the operating current can flow through the channels*. These channels, then, should be configured in such a way that no spikes of the electric field occur in them.

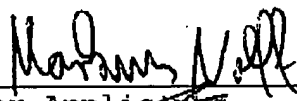
(emphasis added)

The above-noted passage, particular in combination with the drawings (Fig. 1), is believed to clearly show the subject-matter of the amendment: Channels - which are formed by a semiconductor body of a first conductivity type - electrically connecting parts of the semiconductor body separated (except for the channels formed by the semiconductor body) by semiconductor regions of a second conductivity type.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-20 are solicited.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,


For Applicants

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December 13, 2002

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